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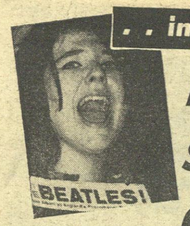


# Fastest selling discs in record history

THE BEATLES have the fastest selling single and album in the history of the record business, said Capitol Records Vice President Alan Livingston, in presenting the boys with two Gold Records last week. At a special Press conference in the Hotel Plaza, Livingston said the album "Meet The Beatles," had achieved a sale of 800,000 in three weeks. And "I Want To Hold Your Hand" hit 1,800,000 in the five weeks since its release.

Later in the week, through arrangements made with Beatles A and R chief George Martin, Swan Records officials presented The Beatles with another Gold Record — for "She Loves You," which has also sold over 1,000,000 copies.

During the interview which followed the Capitol Records presentation, The Beatles were asked whether they objected to being compared with Elvis Presley, as if they were four Elvises. "He's still the best whether you like it or not, so we think he's the best to be compared with," said Paul.

(Above) The Beatles meet the diplomats at a reception at the British Embassy in Washington. (Right) Everybody wants The Beatles' autographs, even the "trainman." (Below) Paul draws a ticket for the tombola at the Embassy "do." (Bottom) Top New York DJ Murray Kaufman takes a nap in the train while John thinks about the welcome they've all had.

Ed Sullivan has an exclusive on The Beatles until September. The boys opened and closed their second show from Miami and for the first time were allowed to talk on the programme.

The second show was better than the first, with an improved sound balance. During the programme Ed Sullivan passed a message from Richard Rodgers, who wired, "I am your most ardent admirer."



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# EVEN PRES WAS NEVER LIKE THIS!

VETERAN show business reporters in New York say The Beatles' Carnegie Hall performance made Presley concerts look like a Sunday school picnic!

I was actually on stage with The Beatles, together with about 500 others, and the boys had only a small area in which to perform. This was because tickets had been oversold and extra fans had to be housed somehow.

Sitting near me were Tom Sloan, head of the BBC's Light Entertainment, A and R man George Martin and Freddy Cannon. The audience was a mixture of celebrities and fans, and among the former were Van Johnson, Tuesday Weld and Mrs. Nelson Rockefeller and her daughter, who, after the show, got The Beatles' autographs.

The place was alive with police and security men, who patrolled the stage and audience during the act. Outside police had set up wooden barriers on the pavement, similar to those erected outside the Plaza Hotel the morning of the concert.

## From former DISC columnist JACK GOOD now producing TV shows in America

From 9 a.m. that morning, 15,000 fans waited outside the hotel, shrieking, shouting and singing in the snow and ice, carrying on till the boys left for Carnegie Hall. Ticket touts sold CHEAP tickets at £5 each.

Boys paraded around with placards reading "Go Home Beatles. We want Liz," or "The Beatles Are As Crude As Oil" and "Ringo — I Wanna Hold Your Nose." Girls sang "We Love You Beatles," to the tune of "We Love You Birdie," from "Bye Bye Birdie."

The Beatles opened their concert with "Roll Over Beethoven," and immediately bedlam broke out. By the end of the show, which they finished with "Twist And Shout" and "Long Tall Sally," everyone was on their feet, with fans dancing in the aisles and all over the theatre.

But The Beatles were a little disappointed. They said their act went better in Washington. There, their performance was videotaped for showing on close circuit TV in cinemas. This kind of treatment is usually reserved for prize-fights!

*Vice-President of Capitol Records, Alan Livingston, presents The Beatles with two Gold Discs for "I Want To Hold Your Hand" and the "Meet The Beatles" LP. (Below, left) Ringo has a swinging time at the Peppermint Lounge in New York. (Below, right) Paul makes his choice for one of the many record requests the boys made direct from their hotel room to the New York radio stations.*

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**Reports direct from New York, Washington and Miami by DISC'S ace team headed by Jonathan Clark**